

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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93-253

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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Paul S. Sarbanes  
United States Senate  
309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Sarbanes:

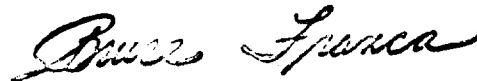
This responds to your letter of November 2, 1993, addressing the 2 GHz Personal Communications Services (PCS) proceeding, GEN Docket No. 90-314. Your constituents, Jay L. Sedwick, Vice President and Gary Dale Davis, Sr., Manager of Armstrong Telephone Company, express support for a PCS licensing structure that permits small and rural telephone system participation.

On September 23, 1993, the Commission adopted final rules to govern PCS. The Commission allocated 120 megahertz of spectrum for licensed PCS and adopted licensing areas based upon Basic Trading Areas (BTAs) and Major Trading Areas (MTAs); 60 megahertz of spectrum were allocated for BTAs and 60 megahertz for MTAs. Local exchange carriers may apply for PCS licenses on the same basis as other applicants.

Consistent with the Omnibus Reconciliation Act, in a companion Notice of Proposed Rule Making, PP Docket No. 93-253, the Commission proposed to award PCS licenses by competitive bidding. The Commission also proposed licensing preferences in one 20 megahertz and one 10 megahertz frequency block for rural telephone companies, small businesses, and businesses owned by minorities and women.

The Commission's decisions addressing PCS are designed to foster competition among PCS providers and between PCS providers and cellular radio operators and to ensure expeditious provision of PCS in both urban and rural areas. I am enclosing the press releases for the dockets addressed above that more fully describe the Commission's actions.

Sincerely,



 Thomas P. Stanley  
Chief Engineer

Enclosures

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PAUL S. SARBANES  
MARYLAND

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**United States Senate**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510-2002

November 2, 1993

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202-224-4524

TOWER I, SUITE 1010  
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301-589-0797

CUMBERLAND: 301-724-0695

SALISBURY: 410-860-2131

SOUTHERN MARYLAND: 301-259-2404

Ms. Lauren J. Belzin  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street N.W., Room 808  
Washington, D.C. 20554

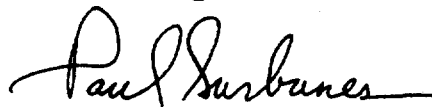
Dear Ms. Belzin:

Enclosed is a copy of correspondence I received from Gary Dale Davis and Jay Sedwick. The letter raises some serious concerns about telephone systems in rural areas. I would greatly appreciate it if you would carefully review this matter and provide me with an appropriate response.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

With best regards,

Sincerely,



Paul S. Sarbanes  
United States Senator

PSS/mmc  
Enclosure



# ARMSTRONG TELEPHONE COMPANY

122 SOUTH QUEEN STREET • RISING SUN, MARYLAND 21911 • (410) 658-5511 • FAX (410) 658-4777

93 SEP 13 AM 9:59

September 8, 1993

The Honorable Paul Sarbanes  
2327 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Sarbanes:

I am writing to ask you to contact Federal Communications Commission Chairman James H. Quello and Commissioners Andrew C. Barrett and Ervin S. Duggan strongly encouraging them to fully achieve the objectives of the recently-passed budget reconciliation law by ensuring that small and rural telephone systems are able to provide new services, such as PCS, under an auction regime.

The budget reconciliation law requires the FCC to ensure new technologies are rapidly deployed in rural areas. It also requires that licenses be distributed to a wide variety of applicants, including rural telephone companies.

Small and rural telephone systems are best situated to assure new services and technologies reach rural subscribers. They have a proven track record of delivering state-of-the-art technologies to their subscribers in rural America. Please urge the FCC to ensure that we can continue to do so.

Sincerely,

ARMSTRONG TELEPHONE COMPANY

Gary Dale Davis, Sr.  
Manager

GDDsr:djw



# ARMSTRONG TELEPHONE COMPANY

ONE ARMSTRONG PLACE

BUTLER, PA 16001

412-283-0925

September 8, 1993

The Honorable Paul Sarbanes  
2327 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20510

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Please urge the FCC to ensure that we can continue to do so.

Sincerely,

  
Jay L. Sedwick  
Vice President

JLS/kr

53 SEP 14 AM 10:14